



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

June 22, 2020

Contact: Kevin Perez-Allen, kperezallen@naleo.org

(714) 499-4481

Marcus Silva, msilva@naleo.org

(510) 456-5444

NALEO Statement on Pride 2020 While Census Is Underway

2020 Census will count same-sex relationships in households for the first time ever

Washington, D.C. - The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO), today issued the following statement from NALEO President Ricardo Lara as we near the end of Pride month:

"Pride is about being seen. Coming out and saying, 'I am here, and I am proud of who I am,' and what it means to be able to say that alongside legal protections and progress under the law, is something people in the LGBTQ+ community have been fighting for over many decades.

"And while there is a long way to go, all of us in the LGBTQ+ community can make sure we are seen and heard by being counted in the 2020 Census. With the distribution of more than \$1.5 trillion in annual federal spending in addition to the reallocation of political power, ensuring that LGBTQ+ people in the United States are counted is critical to ensuring we are fairly represented and have access to health care, and funding for our children's schools, and programs that many in our community use to maintain healthy lives.

"This census is the first in American history that will recognize same-sex relationships in a household. And while there is more work and progress to be made for LGBTQ+ people in America, doing everything we can to be counted today helps set us on a path toward securing that future."

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About NALEO

The National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials is the non-partisan leadership organization of the nation's more than 6,800 Latino elected and appointed officials.